

115th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Utah

REPORT OF EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

On behalf of Episcopal Community Services, Inc., I am pleased to provide this report to the 115th Convention of the Diocese of Utah. ECS is a Utah nonprofit charitable corporation separate from but linked to the Corporation of the Episcopal Church in Utah. It was intentionally not incorporated as a religious corporation to enable it to be eligible for contracts and access to funding sources that do not fund religious entities. Our current and prospective ECS programs and activities reflect some of the many multi-faith ministry possibilities that this corporate form permits.

A. People Resources

ECS is governed by a Board of Trustees, chaired by the Rt. Rev. Scott B. Hayashi. Other members of the Board include Mr. John Hanshaw, Mr. Michael Herron, The Rev. Canon Pablo Ramos, D.D., Ms. Sara Kurrus, Ms. Jennifer Voros and Cn. Stephen F. Hutchinson, Esq. (who also serves as Executive Director of ECS). ECS staff leadership includes The Rev. Nancy Cormack-Hughes, Director of Spiritual Care and Ms. Karen Peña, Director of Administration, The Rev. Anne Campbell, Community Pastoral Care Chaplain; and approximately 20 ACPE Chaplain staff trained through our CPE program at St. Mark's Hospital.

A. Mandate and Current Services

The organizational mandate of Episcopal Community Services is to address unmet and ill-met needs in the wider community. Currently, this mandate is exercised in the area of spiritual care services in five different hospitals (St. Mark's Hospital (SLC), Lakeview Hospital (Bountiful), Ogden Regional Medical Center (Ogden), Timpanogos Regional Hospital (Orem), Mountain View Hospital (Payson), community pastoral care services at two senior housing complexes of the Episcopal Management Corporation, and maintaining the Episcopal Church connection to the Youth Impact program in Ogden. One new chaplain service that has become very popular is our free "Spiritual Care Support Line" by which hospital patients, family members or staff can reach a chaplain by telephone 24/7.

The ACPE Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program, accredited by the U.S. Board of Education, is well established at St. Mark's Hospital. Education units include two 16-week and one 11-week "Day Units" for full-time residents and part-time interns, one 28-week "Extended Unit" (set in the evening for people who work during the day), and a new 28-week Unit conducted in collaboration with BYU's Masters of Religion graduate degree for military-bound chaplains. We currently have five full-time CPE Residents on staff for one-year, completing four units of CPE and preparing for Association of Professional Chaplains (APC) Board Certification when possible.

ECS recently assumed corporate responsibility for the very exciting program known as Art Empowers, which is located at St. Elizabeth's Church in Whiterocks, Utah. This program serves and empowers children on the Ute Reservation through creative arts. This association enables Art Empowers to utilize and benefit from the governance and organizational resources of ECS, with local program leadership.

Until recently, we also served the YWCA Women's and Children's Facility. Those services were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic and financial reversals at the YWCA. We hope to resume services there, maintaining a healthy informal relationship in the interim.

B. Goals

Currently, ECS has two primary goals. The first is to effectively represent the Episcopal Church in Utah in extending the Church's presence and ministries in the wider community and adding more service venues in hospitals and specialty care facilities. The second goal is to firmly establish Episcopal Community Services as the preeminent provider of pastoral care services in Utah.

C. Action Items

The current action items include the following:

- Strengthen the ACPE CPE™ program, providing more professional chaplains to hospitals and other venues in the Mountain West Region and other areas of the Diocese of Utah
- Engage new Certified Educators to carry on the traditions of educational excellence established by the late Rev. Lincoln Ure and his successor, The Rev. Nancy Piggott.
- Explore greater engagement with Youth Impact, an affiliate of ECS, and possible development of additional youth services programs in other communities in the Salt Lake Valley
- Expand Community Pastoral Care Services in senior housing facilities owned and operated by Episcopal Management Corporation
- Engage congregations of the Diocese in collaborative ministries
- Develop a strategic plan for financial sustainability of ECS without undue financial burden on the Diocese
- Create new opportunities for ECS to address the unmet and ill-met needs of the Diocese of Utah community.

D. Analysis

The expansion of ECS activities has been possible to date with a part-time Executive Director, due to the exemplary work of our Director of Spiritual Care, Director of Administration and Certified Educator. Continued growth and realization of the goals mentioned in this report will require additional staff and financial resources, even though our budget is almost totally funded by service contracts. The ECS Board is engaged in addressing this issue.

Our program is acclaimed as a CPE Center, and we always have a waiting list of persons wanting to take the training program. However, as we expand our chaplaincy services to more venues, we will need more ECS-employed chaplains. We have begun to be more intentional in recruiting participants in the CPE program who wish to become employed long-term by ECS as hospital or community Chaplains.

E. Recommendation

We are so deeply appreciative of the financial support we have received from the Diocese, in recognition of ECS as a significant component of The Episcopal Church in Utah. We strongly urge the continuation of diocesan support through administrative services and financial allocations to support the development stages of ECS until it is able to be completely self-sustaining. ECS services reach tens of thousands of people in Utah in each of the communities it serves. The awareness of the Episcopal Church and its ministry is through this engagement

that is invaluable to the overall ministries of the Church, including the Episcopal Diocese in Utah. There is a significant need for greater awareness of ECS activities and opportunities for participation by people within the congregations of the Diocese. We believe that mutual engagement will benefit the ministries of the congregations as well as support the focused ministries of ECS.

F. Statement

The ministries of ECS are designed to complement and supplement the ministries of our congregations. Our services are beyond the scope and capability of individual congregations for the Diocese separately. Together, the wide range of ECS ministries significantly broaden the ministries of the Diocese and the congregations in providing spiritual guidance and support, comfort and presence with people at the most desperate times, and the circumstances of their lives. Our highly trained and professional Chaplains often provide a quality and intensity of spiritual care beyond that which could be sustained by clergy or lay ministers in occasional participation. In addition, the ongoing presence of these Chaplains in spaces within institutional settings, separate from congregations, provides us with an opportunity for the ministry of the Episcopal Church to be fully present to people with whom we would otherwise have little if any engagement.

Thank you for your interest and support!

Canon Stephen F. Hutchinson, Esq.
Executive Director